

3763

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



APPLICANT: Stellon, et al. EXAMINER: Michael M. Thompson
SERIAL NO.: 09/981,178 GROUP ART UNIT: 3763
FILED: October 16, 2001 DATED: December 11, 2002
FOR: TROCAR SYSTEM
AND METHOD OF USE

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TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

AMENDMENT TRANSMITTAL FORM

Sir:

Transmitted herewith is an amendment in the above-identified application.

- ☐ Small entity status of this application under 37 C.F.R. § 1.9 and 1.27 has been established by a verified statement previously submitted.
- ☐ A verified statement to establish small entity under 37 C.F.R. § 1.9 and 1.27 is enclosed.
- ☒ No additional fee is required.

The fee has been calculated as shown below:

	(Col. 1)		(Col. 2)		(Col. 3)	SMALL ENTITY		OTHER THAN SMALL ENTITY
	CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT		HIGHEST NO. PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR		PRESENT EXTRA	ADDIT. RATE FEE	OR	ADDIT. RATE FEE
TOTAL	20	MINUS	20	=	X 9	\$	X 18	\$ 0
INDEP.	3	MINUS	3	=	X 42	\$	X 84	\$ 0
<input type="checkbox"/> FIRST PRESENTATION OF MULTIPLE DEP. CLAIM					X 135	\$	X 270	\$ 0
					TOTAL		OR TOTAL	\$ 0
					ADDIT. FEE	\$ -0-		

- * If the entry in Co. 1 is less than entry in Col. 2, write "0" in Col. 3.
** If the "Highest No. Previously Paid for" IN THIS SPACE is less than 20, enter "20".
*** If the "Highest No. Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 3, enter "3".
The Highest No. Previously Paid For (Total or indep.) is the highest number found in the appropriate box in Col. 1 of a prior amendment or the number of claims originally filed.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, postpaid in an envelope, addressed to the: Assistant Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on December 11, 2002.

Dated: December 11, 2002

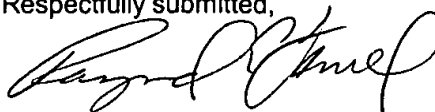
Adrienne Fagan
Adrienne Fagan

[] Please charge Deposit Account No. 50-2140 in the amount of \$____ Two (2) copies of this sheet are enclosed.

[] A check in the amount of \$____ is enclosed.

[X] Please charge any deficiency as well as any other fee(s) which may become due under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 and/or 1.17 at any time during the pendency of this application, or credit any overpayment of such fee(s) to Deposit Account No. 50-2140. Also, in the event any extensions of time for responding are required for the pending application(s), please treat this paper as a petition to extend the time as required and charge Deposit Account No. 50-2140 therefor. TWO (2) COPIES OF THIS SHEET ARE ENCLOSED.

Respectfully submitted,



Raymond E. Farrell

Reg. No. 34,816

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REF/af



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Attorney Docket: 203-2519DIV(2334DIV)

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**AMENDMENT A
AND
RESPONSE TO NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION**

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

Cancel Claim 1 without prejudice.

2. A trocar system as recited in claim 3 wherein the movement of the release member causes the blocking surface to be displaced out of axial alignment with the shield.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence and the documents referred to as enclosed are being deposited with the United States Postal Service on date below in an envelope as "First Class Mail" addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents.

Dated: December 11, 2002

Adrienne Fagan
Adrienne Fagan